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LB 313

this so that you can better understand what the amendment intends to do, and it has to do with two schools in my district, Trumbull and Doniphan. Three years ago both of the...Doniphan and Trumbull schools were struggling with the new state mandate of \$1.10 minimum (sic--maximum) levy. In their effort to become more efficient they entered into a cooperative agreement where both districts could pool their resources. This is a temporary, two-year agreement, and it was formed to see if the two districts in the communities might want to investigate doing something more permanently after the two years were over. They entered into this agreement several months prior to the legislation that passed by the State Legislature allowing for unification of school districts. At that time, they entered into the cooperative agreement. The state calculated that the two districts, if they would consolidate, would receive about \$750,000 incentive aid. After the two years had gone past, they decided it would be a good idea and they...both communities were favorable in consolidating, so they did go ahead and vote to consolidate. At that time, to their surprise, they realized that they were only get...get about \$150,000 in incentive aid, which was...well, after they...they originally thought they would get around \$750,000, but after the two-year period their membership had dropped somewhat so that the state incentive fund should equal about \$450,000. So it ended up when they did calculate it they were getting about \$300,000 less than what they anticipated when they went ahead with their consolidation. To explain it a little more, the...the school consolidation incentive funds are based on the average daily membership, moving from one tier to another tier. The year that Trumbull and Doniphan consolidated then the Trumbull students were already counted in the average daily membership with Doniphan, even though they had never really consolidated, so they were not able to move from one tier to the other, therefore, losing their incentive money. Doniphan is not...in the Trumbull district now, since they've consolidated, is not a money...a district with a lot of money. They've already had to override their levy to make ends meet and I might add that the...that this bill...I would have liked to have put it on, on Select File or some time earlier, but in the Education Committee, in their deliberative manner, didn't get it out of committee until just recently and they did pass it on an 8 to vote...8 to 0 vote to forward it to